

## QUALITY OF LIFE



UTAH FACTS



## Q U A L I T Y   O F   L I F E

Residents of Utah enjoy an invigorating four-season climate, a moderate cost of living, high-quality education, excellent health care, and outstanding cultural and recreational opportunities. These economic, social and cultural advantages make Utah a very desirable place to live.

## C L I M A T E   A N D   W E A T H E R

Utah's four-season climate is stimulating and healthy. The state's altitude ranges from a low of 2,200 feet in southwestern Washington County, to more than 13,500 feet in the high Uintas. The average maximum daytime temperature for Utah's metropolitan area ranges from 37 degrees in January to 93 degrees in July.

Low humidity and lots of sunshine are two favorable aspects of Utah's weather. In Salt Lake County, the summer daytime relative humidity averages less than 30%, and sunny skies prevail an average of 237 days a year.

Annual precipitation varies from less than ½ve inches in Utah's arid Great Salt Lake Desert to more than 60 inches in the northern mountain ranges. In Davis, Salt Lake, Utah and Weber counties, precipitation averages 6 inches per year. Snow accumulates to depths of 10 feet or more at some Wasatch Mountain ski resorts; at some locations, the season-long snow total will be 40 to 50 feet. Because of the state's inland location, Utah's snow is unusually dry, earning the reputation of being the world's greatest powder.

### Q U A L I T Y   O F   L I F E   H I G H L I G H T S

Utah's cost of living falls below national levels for most indicators.

The average price of a home sold in Salt Lake County in 2000 was \$176,479. <sup>9</sup>

Residents of the state enjoy lower disease rates and longer life expectancies.

Utah's culture emphasizes a family and community lifestyle. Thirty-nine states have higher violent crime rates than Utah. <sup>2</sup>

Utah's professional sports teams include the Utah Jazz of the NBA, the Salt Lake Buzz of Triple A baseball, the Utah Grizzlies Hockey club of the International Hockey League, the Utah Freezz of the WISL (World Indoor Soccer League), and the Utah Starzz of the WNBA.

## QUALITY OF LIFE HIGHLIGHTS - CONT.

Salt Lake City will host the 2002 Winter Olympic Games.

Utah is home to the U.S. National Ski Team.

The dry, powdery snow found at Utah's 14 Alpine ski resorts is considered to be the "greatest snow on earth".

Utah arts enthusiasts enjoy a unique mix of performing arts groups, including the Utah Symphony, Ballet West, the Utah Opera Company, the Utah Shakespearean Festival and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

Utah has five national parks: Arches, Canyonlands, Zion, Bryce and Capitol Reef.

## COST OF LIVING AND HOUSING

The cost of living in Utah compares favorably with the region and the nation. The American Chamber of Commerce Researchers' Association's Cost of Living Index for Salt Lake City shows all items are typically at or below the national average, Table 1.

Housing costs in Salt Lake City reflect a strong economy and in-migration. Analysts believe housing costs began a moderation that brought them in line with surrounding Western cities during 1996.

The National Association of Realtors (NAR) reported the average price of a home sold through the multiple listing board in 2000 in the Salt Lake City area was \$145,600, Chart 1. Rental rates for a one-bedroom apartment averaged \$400 to \$550 per month, while a two-bedroom apartment averaged \$600 to \$800 per month in early 2000.

**COST OF LIVING INDICATORS  
SELECTED WESTERN METROPOLITAN AREAS  
THIRD QUARTER, 2000**

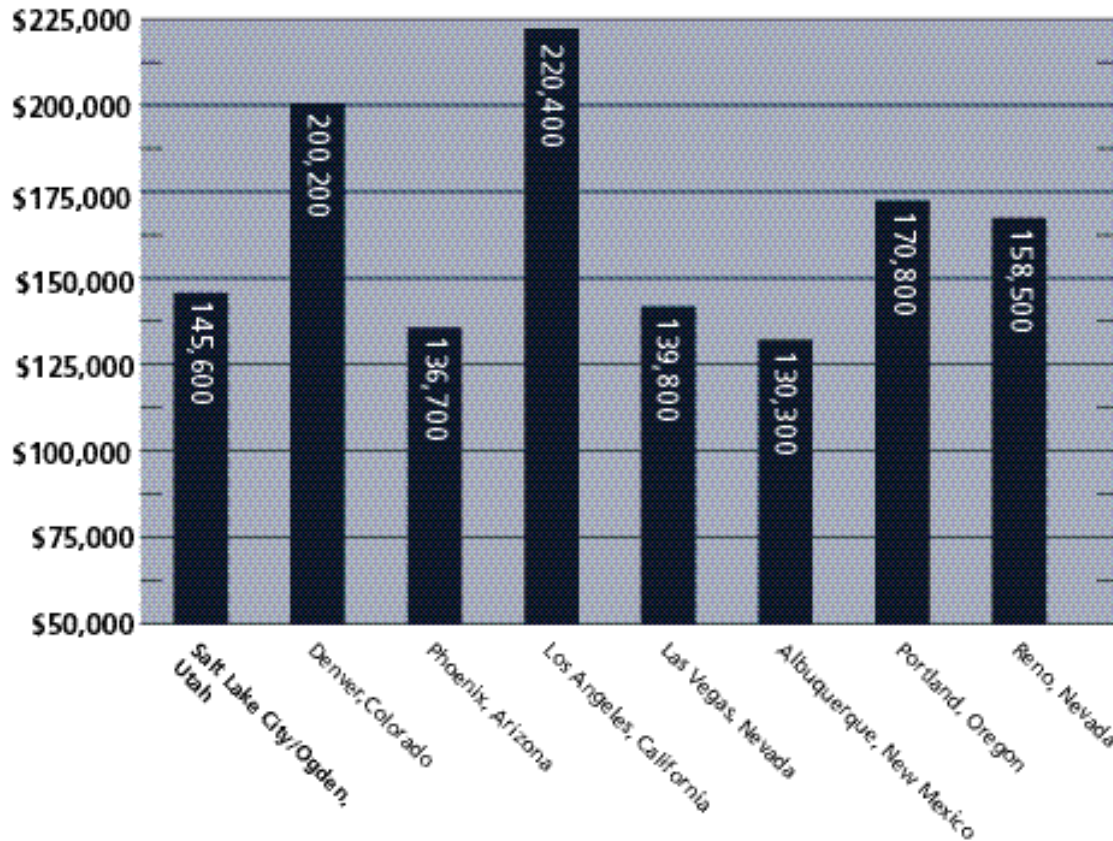
**TABLE 1**

(U.S. Average = 100)							
Metro Area	All Items	Groceries	Housing	Utilities	Trans	Health Care	Misc.
Provo-Orem	99.2	110.3	94.7	82.6	100.8	90.9	102.4
Salt Lake City	103.1	114.0	102.9	76.0	101.3	98.7	105.9
Phoenix	99.0	102.8	100.9	94.9	102.8	117.8	92.4
Los Angeles	147.7	111.4	241.5	114.7	109.1	120.8	109.4
Denver	110.0	113.1	123.4	82.9	107.0	128.5	101.7
Boise	99.9	99.3	98.5	82.6	97.3	112.9	104.3
Las Vegas	105.6	113.7	102.0	88.2	114.2	124.7	103.5
Reno-Sparks	109.2	114.9	114.8	91.7	115.9	125.1	101.4
Albuquerque	99.9	109.1	99.7	91.7	98.1	100.8	97.9
Portland	107.0	102.7	115.3	84.8	109.1	122.1	104.6

Source: American Chamber of Commerce Researchers' Association, Cost of Living Index, Third Quarter 2000.

AVERAGE PRICE OF AN EXISTING  
SINGLE-FAMILY HOME SOLD  
SELECTED WESTERN CITIES  
THIRD QUARTER, 2000<sup>P</sup>

CHART 1



Source: National Association of Realtors  
(P): preliminary

## HEALTH AND MEDICINE

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Utah's population has the fourth-longest life expectancy in the nation.

High-quality medical care is available throughout Utah. Some 52 hospitals contain more than 6,300 staffed beds. Major medical facilities are concentrated in the Wasatch Front region, with 19 hospitals in Salt Lake County, four in Utah County, four in Davis County and two in Weber County.

The University of Utah Health Sciences Center is nationally-known for its patient care and teaching facilities. The center includes the University Hospital, the School of Medicine and the School of Nursing. The Health Sciences Center is extensively involved in basic medical research and widely recognized for its Intermountain Burn Care Center, Trauma Center, Newborn Intensive Care Unit, Human Genetics Center, Institute for Biomedical Engineering, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, John Moran Eye Center and the Huntsman Cancer Institute.



MAJOR PERFORMING ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

TABLE 2

Ballet West  
Mormon Tabernacle Choir  
Pioneer Theatre Company  
Repertory Dance Theatre

Ririe Woodbury Dance Company  
Utah Opera Company  
Utah Symphony

## PERFORMING ARTS

Performing arts have always played a vital role in Utah culture. The state boasts an opera company, symphony orchestra, several ballet, modern dance and theater companies, and a flourishing community of visual artists, writers, poets and film-makers, Table 2. The modern 2,800-seat Abravanel Hall/Art Center Complex and the elegant 2,000-seat Capitol Theatre are examples of Utah's continuing commitment to the performing arts.

OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES VENUES

TABLE 3

Sport	Venue
Alpine Skiing (Giant Slalom) and Snowboarding	Park City Mountain Resort
Alpine Skiing (Slalom) and Freestyle Skiing (Moguls, Aerials)	Deer Valley Resort
Alpine Skiing (Downhill, Super G)	Snowbasin Ski Area
Bobsleigh, Luge, Skeleton, Ski Jumping and Nordic Combined	Utah Olympic Park
Figure Skating and Short Track Speed Skating	Salt Lake Ice Center
Nordic Combined, Biathlon and Cross-Country Skiing	Soldier Hollow
Curling	Ice Sheet at Ogden
Ice Hockey	'E' Center
Ice Hockey	The Peaks Ice Arena, Provo
Speed Skating	Utah Olympic Oval, Oquirrh Park
Opening and Closing Ceremonies	Rice Eccles Olympic Stadium at the University of Utah

## WINTER OLYMPICS 2002

On February 8-24, 2002, Salt Lake City will host the XIX Olympic Winter Games. Along with more than 2,000 athletes from 85 nations, the world will share in the drama and excitement of 75 medal events in 10 different sports, Table 3.

No past Olympic city has been so ready to stage the games so far in advance of the date. All but one of the nine necessary Olympic venues are in place and all facilities necessary to conduct

the games are under contract. No host city has been so geographically close to the venues, and by 2002 a gleaming new Interstate 15 will further ease Olympic transportation.

The 4,000 athletes, coaches and trainers will be accommodated in an Olympic Village on the University of Utah campus. The village will be adjacent to the Olympic Stadium, 10 minutes from the center of the city, and between 10 and 55 minutes away from all venues. After the Games, the housing units will be used for student living quarters.

Salt Lake City's 2002 Olympic Winter Games budget is \$798 million. Revenues will be generated from the following major sources: sponsorships (43%), television rights (39%), ticket sales (10%), donations/subsidies (6%), and coin programs and philately (2%).

It is estimated the 2002 Olympic Winter Games will add \$1.724 billion to Utah's economy.

Since some people may be employed for a decade or more because of the Olympics while others will be employed for only a few months, it is difficult to calculate the number of jobs that will be created. It is estimated, however, that the Games will provide employment for about 20,000 people for one year.

## PLACES OF NATIONAL INTEREST

TABLE 4

Utah Alpine and Nordic Ski Resorts	National Parks
Alpine	Arches
Alta	Bryce Canyon
Beaver Mountain	Canyonlands
Brian Head	Capitol Reef
Brighton	Zion
The Canyons	
Deer Valley	National Monuments
Elk Meadows	Cedar Breaks
Nordic Valley	Dinosaur
Park City	Grand Staircase-Escalante
Powder Mountain	Hovenweep
Snow Basin	Natural Bridges
Snowbird	Rainbow Bridge
Solitude	Timpanogos Cave
Sundance	
Nordic	National Historic Site
Brian Head Cross-Country Ski Center	Golden Spike
Homestead Resort	
Ruby's Inn	National Recreation Areas
Sherwood Hills	Flaming Gorge
Solitude Nordic Center	Glen Canyon
Sundance Nordic Center	
White Pine Ski Touring Center	National Forests: 7, more than 9 million acres
	State Parks: 45
	Major Lakes: 22



## C Y C L I N G

The mountains and red rock deserts of Utah offer mountain bikers and cyclists of all abilities and ages unparalleled scenic beauty. Moab is a cycling hub of the United States. Most of Utah's ski resorts offer bike rentals as well as numerous mountain trails.

For more information, contact Bicycle Utah, P.O. Box 738, Park City, Utah 84060, (801) 649-5806.

## S K I I N G

Utah offers some of the best skiing in the world. Low humidity and low mountain temperatures result in the dry powder snow for which Utah has become famous. Utah's heavy snowfall (up to 500 inches at some resorts) extends the Utah ski season from mid-November through the first of May.

For more information, contact Ski Utah, 150 W 500 S, Salt Lake City, UT 8410, (801) 521-8102.

## S N O W M O B I L I N G

Some 850 miles of groomed trails from rugged northern mountains to southern red rock country offer a full spectrum of experiences. Seven unique complexes dot the state and many provide access to high mountain bowls favored by powder lovers.

## T H E P A I U T E A T V T R A I L

The Paiute ATV trail in central Utah is a continual loop covering more than 200 miles of the state's most beautiful scenery. In addition, there are thousands of miles of side loops and trails, giving the enthusiast an unlimited array of recreational adventures.

## N A T I O N A L P A R K S , M O N U M E N T S A N D R E C R E A T I O N A R E A S

Utah's five national parks, seven national monuments, two national recreation areas and one national historic site, as well as state parks and recreation areas, provide outdoor enthusiasts with abundant opportunities, Table 4.

For more information, contact the Utah Travel Council, Council Hall, Capitol Hill, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114, (801) 538-1030.